

BECKER'S

No. 8.

SYSTEM OF PENMANSHIP



COMPRISING MANUAL AND ELEMENTARY EXERCISES, BUSINESS AND EPISTOLARY
WRITING, AND ORNAMENTAL PENMANSHIP.

IN TWELVE NUMBERS.

REVISED AND IMPROVED EDITION,

By **GEORGE J. BECKER,**

Professor of Drawing, Writing and Book-Keeping in the Girard College.

PHILADELPHIA:

URIAH HUNT & SON, 44 NORTH FOURTH STREET,
1856.

B

Y

According to your request, I have herein enclosed

According to your request, I have herein enclosed

According to your request, I have herein enclosed

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According to your request, I have herein enclosed

Miss Lizzie Warner's Book set Oct 6th A.D. 1856

Being desirous of increasing our establishment
Being desirous of increasing our establishment
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Being desirous of increasing our establishment

Miss Lizzie Wagoner's Copy Book Oct 7th 1856

Confirming our last of the 18th Inst. with Invoice.

Confirming our last of the 18th Inst. with Invoice.

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Confirming our last of the 18th Inst. with Invoice.

Confirming our last of the 18th Inst. with Invoice.

Miss Lizzie Wagners Copy Book Oct 8th 1856

Depending upon your activity in the business.

Depending upon your activity in the business.

Depending upon your activity in the business.

Depending upon your activity in the business.

Depending upon your activity in the business.

Depending upon your activity in the business.

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Depending upon your activity in the business.

Depending upon your activity in the business.

Depending upon your activity in the business.

Depending upon your activity in the business.

Miss Lizzie Wagner Copy Book Oct 10th A D 1886

Enclosed you have our Dft on the house of G.

Enclosed you have our Dft on the house of G.

Enclosed you have our Dft on the house of G.

Enclosed you have our Dft on the house of G.

Enclosed you have our Dft on the house of G.

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Enclosed you have our Dft on the house of G.

Enclosed you have our Dft on the house of G.

Miss Emma E. Wagners Copy Book. A D 1856

Favorable accounts have been received at J.

Favorable accounts have been received at L.

Favorable accounts have been received at H.

Favorable accounts have been received at H.

Favorable accounts have been received at H.

Favorable accounts have been received at H.

Favorable accounts have been received at H.

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Favorable accounts have been received at H.

Emma E Wagner's copy book A D 1891

Great exertions are necessary to effect sales.

Great exertions are necessary to effect sales.

Great exertions are necessary to effect sales.

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Great exertions are necessary to effect sales.

Great exertions are necessary to effect sales.

Miss Lizzie Wagner's copy book Oct 16th A D 1856

Having taken my son into partnership in the

Having taken my son into partnership in the

Having taken my son into partnership in the

Having taken my son into partnership in the

Having taken my son into partnership in the

Having taken my son into partnership in the

Having taken my son into partnership in the

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Having taken my son into partnership in the

Having taken my son into partnership in the

Having taken my son into partnership in the

Having taken my son into partnership in the

Having taken my son into partnership in the

Miss Emma E. Wagners copy book

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Inventory of the Effects and Debts, active & passive.

Miss Louise Wagner's Copy Book

Judgment must be given according to the laws.

Judgment must be given according to the laws.

Judgment must be given according to the laws.

Judgment must be given according to the laws.

Judgment must be given according to the laws.

Judgment must be given according to the laws.

Judgment must be given according to the laws.

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Judgment must be given according to the laws.

Judgment must be given according to the laws.

Judgment must be given according to the laws.

Miss Lila Wagner Copy Book Oct 29th A.D. 1856

Keep strict accounts and balance them frequently

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Keep strict accounts, and balance them frequently.

Miss Edgworth's Wagners Easy Book

Lithographic Establishment, No 7 Bank A.V.

Lithographic Establishment, No 7 Bank A.V.

Lithographic Establishment, No 7 Bank A.V.

Lithographic Establishment, No 7 Bank A.V.

Lithographic Establishment, No 7 Bank A.V.

Lithographic Establishment, No 7 Bank A.V.

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Lithographic Establishment, No 7 Bank A.V.

Lithographic Establishment, No 7 Bank A.V.

Lithographic Establishment, No 7 Bank A.V.

Lithographic Establishment, No 7 Bank A.V.

Miss Bezie Wagner's Copy Book Sept 26th 1845

My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.
My partnership with Mr Bond having terminated.

Miss Bessie Wagner born March 28th 1856

M Bond

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Never do an act of which you doubt the justice.

Miss Bette Wagner copy book

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

Our partnership having ceased by mutual consent

M Emma & Wagner

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Permit me to introduce to your firm the beaver, G.

Emma & Wagner's Copy Book

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

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Quick resentments have often been destructive.

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Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Quick resentments have often been destructive.

Requesting a continuance of your favor and
Requesting a continuance of your favor and
Requesting a continuance of your favor and
Requesting a continuance of your favor and
Requesting a continuance of your favor and
Requesting a continuance of your favor and
Requesting a continuance of your favor and
Requesting a continuance of your favor and
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Requesting a continuance of your favor and
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Requesting a continuance of your favor and
Requesting a continuance of your favor and
Requesting a continuance of your favor and
Requesting a continuance of your favor and

Emilio E. Wigner

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

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Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Requesting a continuance of your favor and
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Requesting a continuance of your favor and
Requesting a continuance of your favor and

Emmeline E. Thayer

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

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Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

Since I had lost the pleasure of writing,

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

This Agreement made the 25th day of November, in

Upland Cotton, say 187 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 185 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 187 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 185 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 185 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 184 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 185 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 187 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 187 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 185 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 187 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 185 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 185 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 185 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 185 Bales have just been recd.

Upland Cotton, say 185 Bales have just been recd.

Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

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Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

Virginia Tobacco commands a high price this season

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor

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We have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

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You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

You will please to effect insurance for my acct.

Zephyr Warsted is now worth \$ 3.50 per pound in the

Zephyr Warsted is now worth \$ 3.50 per pound in the

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Zephyr Warsted is now worth \$ 3.50 per pound in the

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Zephyr Warsted is now worth \$ 3.50 per pound in the

Zephyr Warsted is now worth \$ 3.50 per pound in the

Zephyr Warsted is now worth \$ 3.50 per pound in the

Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

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Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

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Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

Notes and Drafts collected on favorable terms.

In reply to your favor of the 14th Ult. we beg to

In reply to your favor of the 14th ult. we beg to

In reply to your favor of the 14th ult. we beg

In reply to yours parve of the 14th ult. we beg to

In reply to your favor of the 14th ult. and beg to

In reply to your favor of the 14th ult. we beg to

I in reply to your favor of the 14th ult. recd beg to

In reply to your favor of the 14th ult., we beg to

In reply to your favor of the 14th ult., we beg to

In reply to your letter of the 14th ult. we beg to

In reply to your favor of the 14th Ult. we beg so

In reply to your favor of the 14th ult. we beg to

In reply to your favor of the 14.th Ult., we beg to

In reply to your favor of the 14th Ult. we beg to

In reply to your favor of the 14th ult. we beg to

In reply to your favor of the 14th ult. we beg to

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Please deliver to the bearer forty Bbls Flour.

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Shipped in good order and well conditioned, by

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

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Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Received on board the Brig Franklin, 30 Cases p.

Bought of Kennedy & Paul 2,000 lbs. Wheat @ 11³/₄

Bought off Henneidy & Bral 2 oaks. Wheat \$ 1 75

Bought of Kennedy & Bro. 2,000 Bus. Wheat @ \$1 1/2

Bought of Kennedy & Bros 2, 000 Bus. Wheat @ 1 1/2

Bought of Kennedy & Bro: 9, 000 Rus. Wheat @ \$ 1 7/8

Bought of Kennedy & Bros 2000 Bus. Wheat at \$1 1/8

Bought of Kennedy 2 Bros: 2, oaksus. Wheat \$ 1 ³/₄

Bought of Kennedy & Bros 2, 000 bus Wheat at $1 \frac{1}{8}$

18

Effectuated insurance with the American Ins. Comp.

Effectuated insurance with the American Ins. Comp.

Effectuated insurance with the American Ins. Comp^y.

Effectuated insurance with the American Ins. Comp.

Effectuated insurance with the American Ins. Comp.

Effectuated insurance with the American Ins. Comp^y

Effected insurance with the American Ins. Comp^y

Effectuated insurance with the American Ind. Comp.

Effectuated insurance with the American Ins. Comp.

Effectuated insurance with the American Ins. Comp.

Effected insurance with the American Ins. Comp.

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Effectuated insurance with the American Ins Comp^y

Effectuated insurance with the American Ins Comp^y

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TO PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND PUPILS.

In the acquisition of Penmanship, every one does, or ought to, aim at legibility, despatch, and elegance.

Legibility is the first and most important object; without it rapidity will degenerate into an unmeaning scrawl, and elegance be unattainable. Legibility must, therefore, at the commencement of the pupils' labour, command his exclusive attention.

Many methods of making easy the attainment of this difficult art have been devised, and frequent disputes have occurred respecting the propriety of practising large or small hand as the primary exercises, which we would hope have been conducted solely with a desire to promote the best interests of those concerned in the education of youth.

Within a very short time many systems of penmanship have been published, urging as a cardinal principle, that rapidity of execution must be secured before any attention is paid to the accurate formation of letters. For this purpose has been invented certain difficult and intricate flourishes, which are to be practised separately and in connection with small letters and words; and it is argued that these flourishes or movements "when well and frequently executed, will inevitably develop, exercise, and consequently invigorate the muscular powers of the fingers, hand, and arm." If it were possible that a young beginner, or a stiff and formal penman of any age, could acquire facility in these flourishes, it would then be proper to ask, have these movements the effect which those who have invented or adopted them, so loudly proclaim will be the inevitable and invariable consequence resulting from the practice of them? But most unfortunately, only those who have by some other means become expert in using the pen, can execute them with any success.

Another method, and one which all experience has shown to be the only practicable plan, is the frequent and repeated exercise on large hand, until the pupil can use the pen boldly and with ease; the system laid down in these books requires the learner to practise large and text hand, until the proper position of the hand and pen is permanently established. It has been used by the author for the instruction both of very large and small classes, with the most satisfactory success. He is at the present time personally engaged in teaching it to three times as many pupils as perhaps ever before were under the tutorage of any one Teacher of Penmanship, and without one exception it has been found successful. He can, therefore, submit it to the public, not as an experiment to be tried, but as a system of teaching, which, if properly superintended, will make all who practise it, expert and elegant writers. The following remarks, suggested by long experience, will be found useful to teachers. Much, however, will, as in every other branch of education, depend upon the attention and industry of the pupil.

MANNER OF SITTING AND HOLDING THE PEN.

Sit with the left side nearest the desk, the body inclining forward very slightly, the left arm should rest on the desk near to its edge, and the left hand always kept below or in a line with the right hand,—the body should be supported as much as possible by the left arm, leaving the right at liberty to move about as may be required. The pen must be held loosely between the thumb and second finger, the first finger resting on it, and guiding it in the process of making letters. The two last fingers are to be drawn in under the hand, about half way between the ends of the fore fingers and the palm, and the thumb made to touch the pen opposite to the first joint of the fore finger. It is not necessary that the knuckles be kept square or pointing to the ceiling. Pupils are sometimes admonished to keep all the knuckles pointing directly upwards, which is requiring the performance

of an impossibility, as any one who tries it will find. The right arm should be allowed to touch the desk only on the thick or muscular part, and the hand supported by the two last fingers, with the wrist a little raised. If these directions are faithfully followed, no difficulty will be experienced by those who have learned to shape their letters well, in writing with ease and expedition.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BOOKS.

No. 1, contains exercises on the straight stroke, the top and bottom turns, the oval, &c., which are made to represent pencilled letters, for the purpose of having the pupil go over them, at first carefully, in order to get the proper slope and shape of large hand. When they can be made tolerably correct, the pupil should endeavour to make them faster, and to increase the expedition with which he writes, as much as is consistent with correctness of shape. By this method of learning, will certainly be acquired facility in the use of the pen, which can be secured by no other means whatever. The pupil must be cautioned against mending or retouching his letters, and be very careful to keep the hand and pen in the proper position as explained above. It may be necessary to write three or four of No. 1, before proceeding with No. 2.

No. 2, commences with single short letters, less in size than the exercises in No. 1. It contains also the long letters, arranged according to their similarity. These exercises are of much importance, and must be persisted in until the pupil can make them well in a free and off-hand manner. The letters are given in this book separately, in order that the attention may not be directed to more than can be comprehended at one time.

No. 3, contains letters still smaller than No. 2, put together so as to form words; first, words composed only of short letters, then words gradually introducing the long letters. These exercises must also be practiced until they can be executed with facility.

To no branch of education can the motto "*make haste slowly*" be more justly applied, than to Writing. As in spelling and reading, it is necessary to recognise and pronounce every letter of the alphabet before the learner can by any possibility become a good reader, so in writing, all letters and parts of letters must be made with familiarity and ease, before skill or legibility in the art can be acquired.

Nos. 4, 5, and 6, comprise Part 2d, which commences with peculiarly shaped o's, a's, d's, c's, &c., designed to lead to the just and symmetrical shape and slope, which characterize the practical business writing contained in the succeeding numbers, advancing more quickly than before to words of 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 14 letters each. The books of this part contain a great variety of exercises, no one exercise being repeated, yet every letter of the alphabet so often made in different combinations, that perfection and facility must inevitably follow.

In No. 6, Capitals and Figures are given across the page, and are preparatory to writing the lines and sentences in Part 3d. Nos. 7, 8, and 9, contain five sets of Capitals, given separately and connected with short words. Also three sets of alphabetical lines of different sizes, commencing with Capitals.

No. 10, is made up of Notes, Drafts, Bills of Exchange, Orders, Due Bills, Checks, Receipts, Heading of Invoices, Shipments, &c., written in a practical and quick business style.

The Copies which are contained in this series of Books, are exact fac similes of the author's writing, and are confidently offered as most suitable for the acquisition of bold, rapid, and elegant Penmanship.